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Letter dated 8 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 7 October 1997, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 7 October 1997 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 29 September 1997 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations (A/52/411-S/1997/761), which contains allegations regarding "violations of the airspace of the Republic".

Similar allegations, which are put forward to project the false image that the Greek Cypriot side has sovereignty over the whole of the island, have been amply dealt with and refuted in my previous successive communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 30 September 1997 (A/52/422-S/1997/766, annex). I will therefore confine myself to reiterating that flights within the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place within the sphere of competence and jurisdiction of the TRNC authorities and the Greek Cypriot side has no say in the matter whatsoever.

It is regrettable that the Greek Cypriot side persists in its campaign of harmful rhetoric and intensive militarization. Evidently, the Greek Cypriot side is far from coming to terms with the existing realities and the concept of a new partnership with the Turkish Cypriot side on the basis of sovereign equality. I trust that all concerned will impress upon the Greek Cypriot side that it is high time that common sense and realism should prevail, if there is to be a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus dispute.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) AYTUĞ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus